

# Sicily



Land of **cinema**



# SICILY, LAND OF CINEMA



Palermo, la Zisa



**SICILY**  
RECOUNTED THROUGH  
CINEMATOGRAPHIC SETS



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Cefalù, the beach







Sicily can be recounted in many ways: through its history, the beautiful nature or the castles, the events, the oenological-gastronomic, artistic, archaeological, monumental heritage and the traditions. With this publication we want to offer another viewpoint on our island, which this year for its promotion chose the theme of "travel" and the "philosophy" of the traveller.

We have thought we would like to tell you about Sicily through all those sites in which unforgettable pages of Italian and international Cinema have been filmed.

Here, then, thanks to the films by Pietro Germi or Francis Ford Coppola and to the performances of Burt Lancaster and Massimo Troisi, it is possible to make a journey to see the places which have been exceptional sets. But we add that all Sicily is a natural set.

Cinema, like literature, represents a diary of life: of the places in which the events are carried out, of the facts, the stories and human beings, interpreting the "becoming of things" and able to cover distances, engaging but all the same fascinating.

In a world where there is synchronization and the standardization of behaviours and of histories, Paul Virilio has spoken of a "one-

track way of thinking in the era of the creation of models". Sicily, however, is placed apart, beyond every global model thanks to its extraordinary stratified culture, which makes it different and identifies it.

The elements taking part in this game are simple and, at the same time, complicated, if you look at them from different points of view (the right way to approach Sicily), as if you were going to make a journey inside the eternal history of the world. Therefore, to understand the most fascinating island in the Mediterranean, you must have a large perceptiveness, and more points of view than the divine Janus had.

Worldwide cinematography has always been related to our land, because, besides natural surroundings and a very composite architecture, it has found a cultural stratification, which blends memories from the rural world with the history of western society, with open spaces, the sea (element of cultural exchange) and historical areas, Greek tragedy and high literature, tradition and innovation.

2005 is going to be a big stage of events and through them we will tell you a unique and articulated story, a perfect synthesis of civilization, religion and cultural identity.

**FABIO GRANATA**

REGIONAL MINISTER OF TOURISM, TRANSPORTS AND COMMUNICATION

Palermo, "Mura delle Cattive"

## Acitrezza, the Ciclopi Islands

There must be a reason, maybe more than one, if Sicily has been chosen as the set for a great number of important films. Years ago as now.

And there must be a reason if it has been chosen by directors of very different professional ideas, from Rossellini to Visconti, from Rosi to Tornatore to end with Moretti.

We hazard one guess: through a fortunate association of suggestions, the Sicilian landscape extols the violence and the sweetness of nature but also the conflicting feelings of human beings, just like the panorama which alternates rocky spurs and the flat sweep of fields.

Some directors have confused the red colour of sunset with blood, others have shown unknown aspects far from abused stereotypes.

For all of them, however, Sicily, associated with literature, history or chronicle, represents an inexhaustible shrine of histories which have fed the collective imagination, proving that Gesualdo Bufalino is right when he defines Sicily a naturally cinematographic place.

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Acutrezzza, the Port



Acutrezzza, Ciclopi Islands

## La terra trema (1948)

**The Earth trembles** - The first film of a trilogy never completed, about the difficult working conditions of Sicilian workers after the post world war two period, *The earth trembles* is an adaptation of Giovanni Verga's novel *I Malavoglia*. It narrates the tragic story of a family of fishermen and their attempts to liberate themselves from exploitation by wholesalers.

In the summer of 1947, Visconti made an investigative visit to Sicily in which to find locations for the production. He chose Acitrezza - the same town where Verga had set the story of the *Malavoglia* - and its inhabitants. It was they who in fact interpreted various characters, speaking in the Sicilian dialect. The film is considered one of the most important records of Italian Neorealism and has recently been restored.

## Acutrezzza, the Cyclops' Riviera

The first town centre was built in the second half of the sixteenth century, as a seaside wharf for the feudal domain of Prince Riggio of Campofiorito.

Its position at the centre of the so called Riviera of the Cyclops and the beauty of this stretch of sea, the scenery made up of tall rock columns and the island of Lachea, whose touristic fame and fortune was decreed by the first visitors in Sicily many years ago. From 1989 the sea surrounding Acitrezza is protected by a marine reserve, the so called Cyclops Islands, which also includes the nearby Aciastello whose administration is entrusted to the Istituto Universitario Cutgana.

In the area there are different tour operators who offer the possibility to undertake excursions by boat and diving and other excursions to discover the treasures of the area, from the point of view of environment, gastronomy, landscape etc.

Among the local festivals we highlight there is the one in honour of the patron Saint John the Baptist (24th of June), with the local fishermen interpreting the pantomime *u pisci a mari* (the fish at sea).

## Anni difficili (1948)

**Difficult Years** - Based on the novel by Vitaliano Brancati *The old man with the boots*, the film tells the story of a public servant who is forced to become a member of the fascist party or risking the penalty of losing his position. At the end of the war, the poor public servant loses his job exactly because of being a card holding member of the fascist party and the one who fires him is the mayor, the same person who years before had forced him to sign up to the party.

## The town of Modica

For the shooting of this film, Zampa chooses the splendid scenery of the city of Modica and in particular the Baroque facade of the church of Saint Peter with its beautiful flight of steps bordered by statues of the apostles, the Umberto street, the elegant arterial road which still today host the *struscio* (traditional afternoon walk) of the people of Modica and the spectacular stairway which leads to the church of Saint George, one of the most famous religious buildings of the Iblei area. Modica is one of the cities that UNESCO has inserted in 2003, in its World Heritage list, thanks to all its many beautiful Baroque monuments.

Destroyed by the earthquake of 1693, which levelled to the ground a large part of the Noto Valley (the south western apex of Sicily), Modica - which was one of the most wealthy and powerful cities of the kingdom - was rebuilt in the elegant Baroque style, which is its most outstanding feature. Besides the monuments already mentioned, other highlights to see include the museum at the home of Salvatore Quasimodo (the central figure of a literary movement called after the poet, Nobel prize winner of 1959), the church of Saint Maria of Bethlehem, today a national monument, the museum of the Iblei popular art and traditions in the former convent of the Mercedari, who were the original custodians of numerous artefacts illustrating the early activity of artisan workshops of Modica which have been organised and accurately reconstructed.

A characteristic product, not to miss, is the chocolate, prepared according to an antique Aztec recipe.

Some of the other scenes from the film were shot in the Iblei countryside, characterised by its rustic lane ways, leafy carob trees and picturesque collective farms that were once the heart of agricultural activity in the area.



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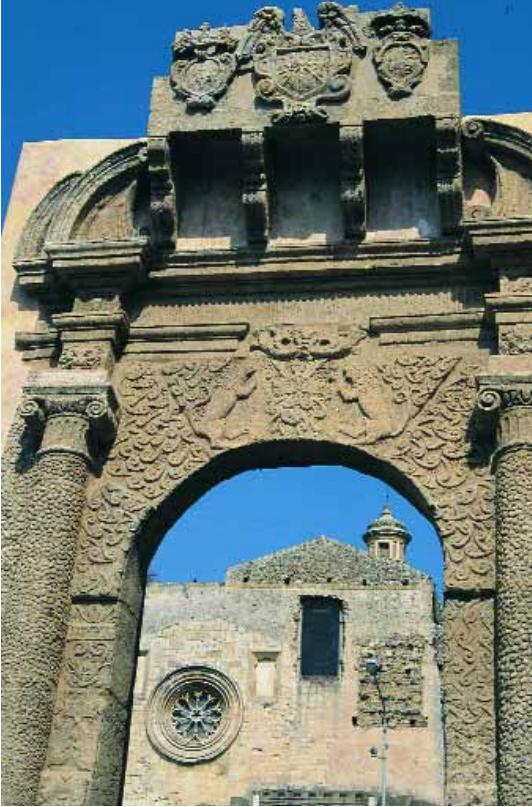
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Sciacca, the gate of San Salvatore and the Sant'Agostino Church



## In nome della Legge (1949)

**In the Name of the Law** - The magistrate Schiavi is sent to a small town in Sicily dominated by the Mafia. His predecessor has given up the assignment, crushed by the code of silence and the aversion of the local community. The only one to show himself as friendly is Paolino, a young and honest worker. Embittered by injustice and by the abuse of power which he meets, Schiavi wants to give up, but the murder of Paolino convinces him to remain and battle against the Mafia.

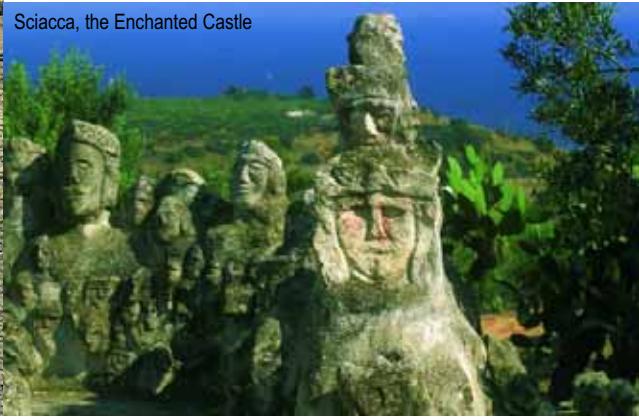
## Houses and squares from Sciacca

Houses and squares from Sciacca make up the set to the film. The most recognisable, amongst other things, are the Scandilato square, the Carmine area, Saint Michael's and the Noceto square.

Sciacca has been well noted from ancient times for its hot springs, whose qualities have been used in a thermal establishment complete with pools, therapeutic treatment and beauty. Moreover vapours coming from underground openings fill a cavern in the nearby Mount Kronio, that according to tradition goes back to the mythological Daedalus.

If a visit to Sciacca is made during the period of the Carnival, well then the city comes alive with vibrant festivities, including the parades of different floats and groups of people in masques.

Sciacca, the Enchanted Castle



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Stromboli, Ginostra



## Stromboli, terra di Dio (1949)

**Stromboli, land of God** - Karen is a young Lithuanian woman who meets a fisherman from Stromboli while in an Italian concentration camp and decides to marry him to escape from the prison. The two go to live on the island of Stromboli, but the marriage is unhappy and the woman is surrounded by the hostility of the islanders who don't accept the foreigner.

Becoming pregnant Karen decides to flee, but in that precise moment the volcano reawakens. The force and confusion of that event naturally throws her into complete misery and unhappiness, after a night out in the open, crying she desperately begs God for help.

## The distant Stromboli

The setting is Stromboli the Aeolian island located furthest away from the Sicilian coast; in reality it is the peak of a large volcano which has the same name. From antiquity the volcano has been characterised by intermittent explosive activity broken by intervals of silence (which are known as the "stromboliana").

The lava explosions are visible from far away so much so that sailors once used Stromboli as a point of navigational referral for sailing in the lower Tyrrhenian sea, almost like a lighthouse. Today the spectacle of the eruptions is an attraction for the many tourists who visit the island. The eruptions are visible from the sea, going out in fisherman's boats, but it is also possible to participate in organised excursions with expert alpine guides up to the main crater and stay the night up on the volcano.

Another thing which must be done is the circumnavigation of the island and a day trip to the small town of Ginostra. The beauty of the sea bed near Stromboli makes it also a real paradise for divers.

The scenes from the film were shot partly between the lava flows of the volcano and in part in the gracious small white homes, which look out onto the black sandy beaches, in the hamlet of Ficogrande. The house used by Karen and Antonio is found in the hamlet of Piscità. A plaque on an old red house in town recalls the visit by the Swedish actress. The film also reflects the love story between Bergman and the director.

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## Vulcano (1949)

Maddalena is a woman with a dark and shady past. After some years away from her native island Vulcano she returns to find her sister Maria who is in love with a local diver. The man wants to take advantage of her to force her into prostitution but Maddalena rather than leave Maria to become a victim of her destiny, stabs the man and then leaves him to die.

## Vulcano, Salina and Lipari

Not only Vulcano but also Salina and Lipari were the sets for this film which for a long time was associated not so much with the film itself as with the notoriety of the turbulent emotional relationship between the protagonists Ingrid Bergman, Roberto Rossellini and Anna Magnani.

Vulcano is hardly recognisable as the scenes where shot mostly in the internal parts of the island, whilst for the external locations Dieterle choose a cave of pumice stone at Lipari in the area of Canneto, the beach at Marina Corta and the gracious streets of the main town. At Salina the most recognizable location is the Rinella beach.

Vulcano Island



Aeolian Islands, Lipari, pumice quarry



Catania, the ex-Benedictine Convent



## Il bell'Antonio (1960)

**Handsome Antonio** - Based on a novel by Vitaliano Brancati (the setting was changed to the 1950's, while originally the writer set the story during the fascist period) the film tells the tale of Antonio Magnano, a noted Don Giovanni which despite his reputation suffers from the problem of impotency. Returning to Catania to marry Barbara

who is hopelessly in love with him, Antonio is forced to come to terms with his "guilt"; only after a year of marriage, Barbara obtains an annulment so she can marry the wealthy Duke of Bronte. In the spring of 2005, the Italian RAI television network transmitted a short series also based on the same novel also filmed in Catania.

**Aast Catania**

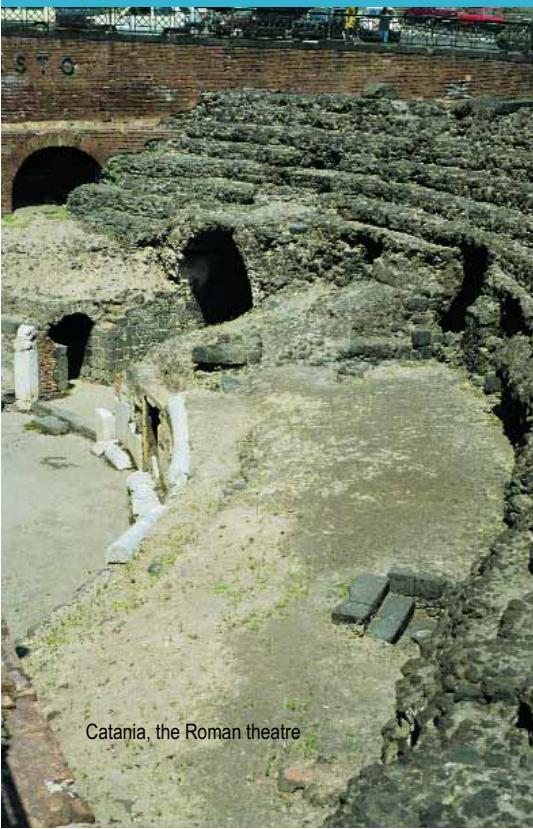
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Catania, the Roman theatre

# Catania as a scene

Like in the book the setting of the film was created in Catania, which is recognisable in many panoramic scenes. The square in front of the cathedral with its grand facade in the religious Baroque style dedicated to Saint Agata, the fountain of Anemano and the sixteenth century elephant sculptured in lava stone which was chosen as symbol of the city ('u liotru) is the heart of the city and the film, together with the Crociferi street. This final location is considered one of the most important of the Catanese Baroque, characterised by the numerous convents and churches, which are united side by side along the street (not to miss the churches of Saint Benedict and Saint Francis Borgia).

The house of Antonio Magnano looks out towards the Vittorio Emanuele II Street, the heart of the city during the sixteenth century; it represented the grandeur of Catania with its uninterrupted succession of aristocratic palaces and convents.

The marriage between Antonio and Barbara in the end is celebrated in the church of San Nicolo l'Arena in Dante square,

an important structure with its incomplete facade, today a war memorial. To its left there is the equally important convent of the Benedictine Fathers, whose fame and fortune was created by Salvatore de Roberto in his novel "I Vicere".

The city of Catania is rich with many centuries of history, with many monuments to visit, including the Ursino Castle built in the twelfth century by the emperor Frederick the Second, the remains of the Roman city, from the amphitheatre, the theatre and the Odeon, the church of the Abbey of Saint Agata and the sumptuous Biscari Palace. In the last few years this important area has become the centre for the recovery of the historic town centre, and a large number of night time spots have been created. They are quite popular and are frequented until the early morning.

For those who love religious festivals, the best appointment is for the first days of February, in which the Catanese people celebrate their patroness the virgin Saint Agata with great pomp and ceremony, with crowded processions and antique ceremonies.

## L'avventura (1960)

**The Adventure** - During a short cruise of the Aeolian Islands, Anna disappears. Her fiancé Sandro and her friend Claudia go in search of her, going from one part of Sicily to the other.

During their wandering, a feeling between them grows into a relationship which is quickly interrupted, yet another testimony to the fragility of human sentiments.

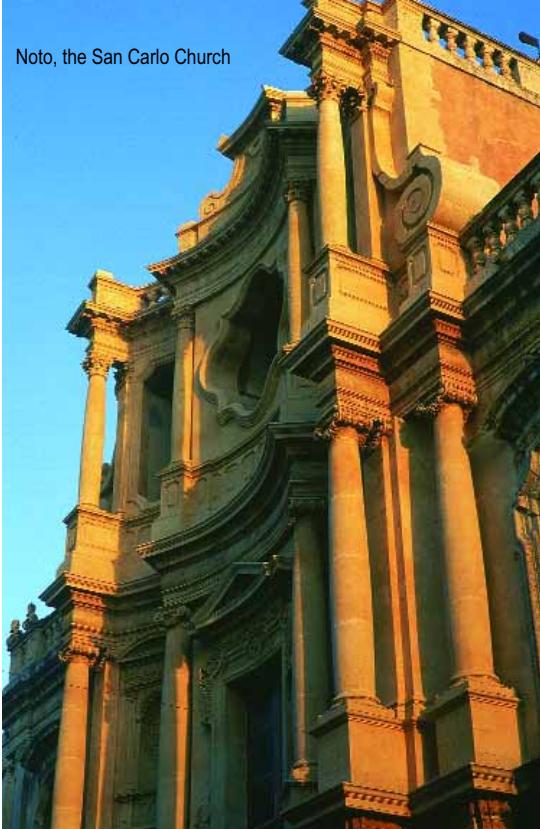
## Lisca Bianca reef

The sea near the Aeolian islands and the Lisca Bianca cliff (where Anna disappears) are the first elements in the Sicilian landscape that Antonini introduces in this film. Moving around Sandro and Claudia, they guide us to different and distinct places of Sicily, from Milazzo to Messina, from Palermo to Bagheria, from Taormina (and more specifically the beautiful ex convent of the Dominican fathers, today transformed into a luxury hotel) to the mountains which rise up to the extreme north east of Sicily - more in particular, in the area between Francavilla di Sicilia and Novara di Sicilia, to the small village abandoned by the Ente Riforma di Sella Mandrazzi.

Furthermore there is Noto, always considered the capital of Sicilian Baroque and inserted by UNESCO in the prestigious World Heritage list. Here there are the easily recognisable church of SS. Salvatore, the square of San Francesco all'Immacolata, the bell tower of Saint Charles (which is open to be climbed for a view on the panorama of the so called "Garden of stone") which belongs to the church of the same name built between 1736 and 1746.

Other monuments to see at Noto, are those reconstructed in the area after the earthquake of 1693, which destroyed the old town. They include the church of Saint Dominic, constructed at the beginning of the sixteenth century from the design by architect Rosario Gagliardi, one of the most active in the reconstruction of the Noto Valley, the Villadorata palace, whose facade is decorated by beautiful sculptured frames which support the balconies, the Ducezio palace and the main offices of the town hall.

In 2006 the reconstruction work will be completed on the majestic cathedral, after the collapse of the central dome in 1996 which damaged the cathedral's structure.



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Not to be missed is an excursion to ancient Noto, the old city, long since abandoned, which is being valued for the possibility of being recovered and restored. Besides this, always outside of the city, it's possible to visit the hermitage of the patron Saint Corrado, who lived a hermit's life in the grotto during the sixteenth century, after which the sanctuary was built.

Along the road there are different cafes where it's possible to taste the best granita ice drink in the classic flavours of lemon and mulberry (there are no end to the choice of flavours).

During the month of May the city comes alive for the Baroque festival, which exhibits elements of the sixteenth century city life with parades in antique costumes, pantomime and different kinds of presentations.

right, Taormina, Greek Theatre  
below, Panarea, Cala Junco



San Giuseppe Jato, the archaeological area of the Jato Mountain



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Castelvetrano, Trinità di Delia



## Salvatore Giuliano (1961)

The film reconstructs the life of a celebrated Sicilian bandit of the post world war two period, taking the viewers through the stories and mysteries which characterised him.

The director attempts to reconstruct a documentary through the mysterious twists and turns between politics, the Mafia, bandits and the separatist movement.

## Alto Belice of Giuliano

The location for the film is the real location of the true story (and the beginning is in fact the testimonial evidence told by people from the area): the houses, alleyways and squares of Montelepre, birthplace of Giuliano, the mountains and the village of the Jato valley, from San Giuseppe to Partinico, which was his kingdom, to Castelvetrano, where the bandit passed the final months of his life until he was assassinated. There are excellent photographic images which show the full melancholic beauty of the locations.

A view of Alto Belice Corleonese



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Ragusa, a view

Sopra: Noto, Palazzo Nicolaci



## Divorzio all'italiana (1962)

**Divorce Italian Style** - The Baron Ferdinando Cefalù is madly in love with his sixteen year old cousin and decides to marry her, following an intricate and perfect plan, to liberate himself from his ugly wife Rosaria using the legal defence of matrimonial betrayal. Based on an old Italian law which "justifies" crimes of honour, he is condemned to a ridiculous small punishment.

The film is full of biting and ruthless social satire and had enormous international success.

## Fantastic Acramonte

The town of Acramonte where Germi sets the story doesn't really exist but was created by his imagination putting together streets and squares of Ragusa and Ispica. The Garibaldi Street of Ispica creates the scene of the Sunday morning walks of the Baron and his wife, walking up into the main church dedicated to Saint Bartholomew. At Ibla most of the internal scenes were filmed (for example in the Circolo della Conversazione), while for the meeting between the Baron and the beautiful Angela we move to Catania.

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Sciacca, Palazzo Steripinto



## Sedotta e abbandonata (1963)

**Seduced and Abandoned** Why was Pietro Germi so violently criticized for the presentation of this comic masterpiece, this grotesque story of a beautiful girl who, exactly as the title suggests, is seduced and abandoned. Unable to resign herself to her mistake right away she denounces her young seducer. The story finishes as part of the gossip on everyone's lips and the two are reluctantly forced into a marriage of convenience to save face.

## Germi comes back to Sciacca

This biting satire on Sicilian society, in which maintaining honour seems the most important thing, was set in the town of Sciacca, where Germi returned again after shooting *"In the name of the law"* fifteen years before.

The scenery in fact is the same, from the Noceto square in Incisa Street (where the church of Saint Margherita stands with its beautiful intricately sculptured gothic - renaissance door).

Amongst the various monuments to see are the Steripinto palace, the Cathedral, the Scaglione palace, which hosts an interesting museum realised by the donation of a precious collection of ceramics, porcelain and other objects, donated by the Scaglione family.

Sciacca, the spa



## Il Gattopardo (1963)

**The Leopard** - Inspired by the most fortunate novel of the same name by Tomasi di Lampedusa, the film tackles the history of Italy and in particular Sicily, using the story of the aristocratic family of the Prince of Salina. The main character (interpreted by Burt Lancaster) finds himself affronting the tumultuous changes associated with the arrival of Garibaldi in Sicily and the rapid changes in society, to which he is intimately linked.



left:  
Palermo, Casa Professa

on the opposite page:  
S.Margherita del Belice,  
Palazzo Filangeri  
and a detail  
of Palazzo Ganci

## Locations: Palermo



The memorable final scene, the long waltz of the Prince with the beautiful Angelica was filmed in the magnificent ballroom of the Gangi Palace at Palermo. The city and its surrounding provinces were extensively used for the realization of various scenes, including some of the memorable battles. You can recognize the Revolutionary Square, the Kalsa, the area of Casa Professa, the Victory Square and the San Giovanni Decollato square.

The home of the Prince was recreated in the beautiful Villa Boscogrande, one of the most important noble residences of the eighteenth century being the spectacle of the Colli plain, which once was the countryside to the north of the city where aristocratic families would go to escape the summer heat.

The sequence of the trip towards Donnafugata offered the possibility to drive through the beautiful scenery of the Sicilian countryside around Piana degli Albanesi, while, to recreate the town of Donnafugata the picturesque landscape and scenery in the area of Ciminna was chosen.

Even the city of Cefalu was used for some scenes.

Following the scenes of "The Leopard", therefore, allows us to know many different aspects of Sicily, from the magnificence of the aristocratic palaces to the legendary elegance of Cefalu, (not to be missed its Norman cathedral) to the countryside at times apparently inhospitable, to the most hidden parts of old Palermo.



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## A ciascuno il suo (1967)

**Each to his own way** - The first of many films, inspired by the works of Leonardo Sciascia, tells the story of a professor who discovers the shadow of the Mafia over a crime which has been labelled as a crime of passion. He decides to investigate in depth but his curiosity is punished by his death.

## The Rocca of Cefalù

A major part of the scenes were shot around Cefalù: under the shadow of the beautiful Norman cathedral, at the feet of the Rocca, the tables of the cafe are arranged here, the place is a designated spot for the local to sit and observe their fellow citizens. Besides you notice the pharmacy Cirincione on the Ruggero road, together with the principal sights of the historical city centre, and the courtyard of the monastery of Saint Catherine. Once in Cefalù, you must see the large open air medieval stone laundry washing basins, still conserved intact in their original form, the Osterio Magno and the Mandralisca Museum, whose most important piece is the "Il Sorriso dell'Ignoto Marinaio" (The smile of an unknown sailor) painted by Antonello da Messina. For the hunting expedition scene, the director chose the countryside around the town of Finale di Pollina.





## Il giorno della civetta (1968)

**The Day of the Owl** - Still another novel by Sciascia as the inspiration for this film: a construction worker is killed and the Mafia wants the investigation concluded with a verdict of a crime of passion. The captain of the police Bellocchi, instead, investigates in depth and finds the proof to trap those guilty of the crime and their commander, the mafia boss Mariano Arena. But everything is covered up thanks to the political protectors of Arena.

above, the countryside not far from Partinico

on the opposite page:

above, "Il Sorriso dell'Ignoto Marinaio" by Antonello da Messina  
below, Cefalù, a view from the Rocca

## Partinico

For the set of this film, Damiani chose the town of Partinico (Palermo). Most of the scenes were filmed here on the cathedral square and the corso dei Mille.

Partinico is a big agricultural centre, built on a settlement founded by the Romans in the heart of a fertile and cultivated area, above all by viticulture and olives. The monument featured the most is the main church, built in the eighteenth century.

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# Il Padrino

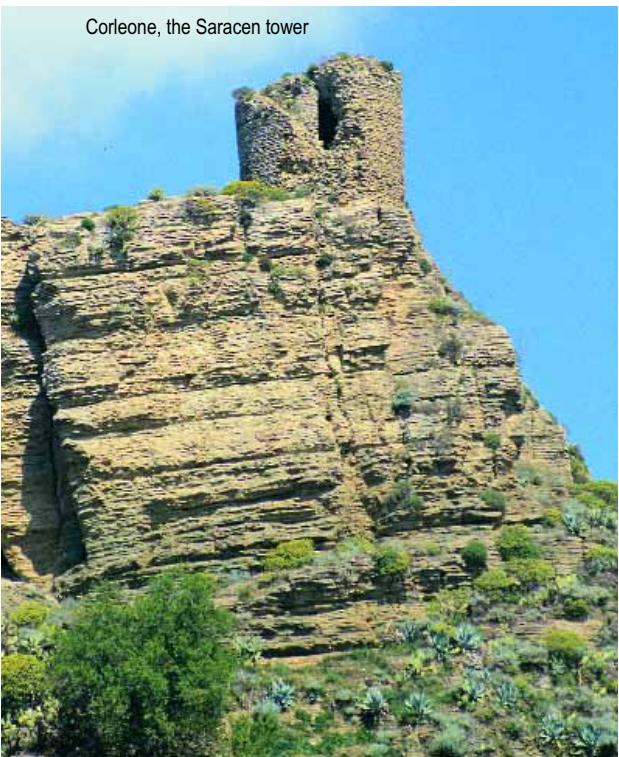
Migrated to America, Vito Corleone has become an important boss of the local Mafia.

The three films follow the rise and fall of his family.

In the first we see how Vito's son, Michael, who was first kept away from the business of the family, gradually becomes the godfather. The second film isn't a true and real sequel but a completion of the first film. It narrates the story of the young Vito, the only son of his family, who arrives in New York to found a criminal empire.

In the third, there is the physical and economic decline of Michael and the tragic conclusion of the saga.

Corleone, the Saracen tower



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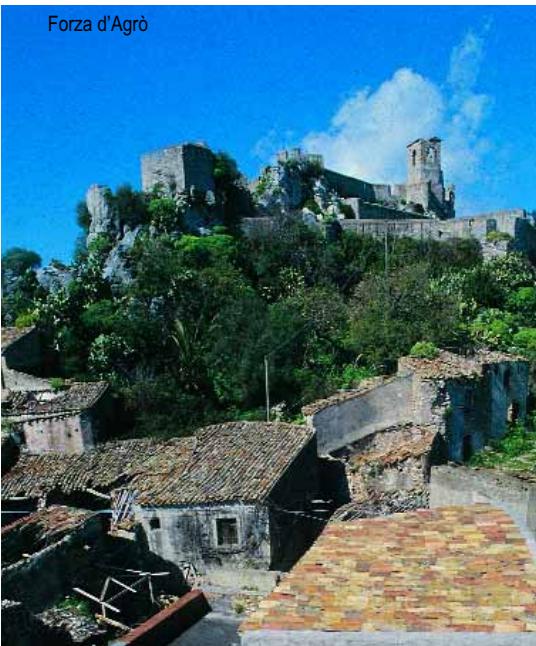
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Palermo, Massimo theatre



# From New York to Palermo

Forza d'Agrò



Filmed predominantly in the United States, the three episodes contain some "Sicilian" sequences. The small city of Corleone was recreated at Forza d'Agrò, a small town in the province of Messina, in the Peloritani mountains.

There were many different panoramic locations filmed in the town: the central square from which you see the main church called the Santissima Annunziata (where we find many works of art to admire, both paintings and sculptures), the small square of the Holy Trinity (not far from here, along the stairways going to the Triade church we discover a beautiful large decorative door from the fifteenth century), and a lookout on the Ionic coast.

Another important location, used in all three episodes is the Castle of the Slaves, a seventeenth construction a couple of kilometres from Fiumefreddi di Sicilia, which in the film becomes the house of an old friend of the Corleone family, Don Tommasino.

In the end some scenes from The Godfather part III were shot at Palermo, in particular in the Villa Malfitano (the prestigious home of the Whitaker family who reconstructed it in 1889. Today the foundation of the same name is housed here) and on the staircase of the eighteenth century Teatro Massimo. Closed during the time of filming (it was restored and reopened to the public in 1998) the theatre is one of the most prestigious opera houses in Europe - and also one of the largest, with an area of 7730 m<sup>2</sup>.

Palermo, Villa Malfitano



## Kaos (1984)

**Chaos** - The cinematographic interpretation of four short stories by Luigi Pirandello: *The other son*, *Luna illness*, *The jar* and *Requiem* (a television version) together with the epilogue of *Interview with the mother*, this film cemented the Tavini brothers' reputation as great creators of Italian cinema and it is one of the best productions of our cinema during the 1980-90 period.

## Iblei

For the set the director brothers chose Iblei, one of the most picturesque zones of our region, which is followed by many other locations. The Tavini's moved between the city and the countryside for filming and all of the locations are of very suggestive beauty. We see the castle of Donnafugata (recently restored and opened to the public, it is a beautiful example of an aristocratic residence), there are scenes filmed at Ragusa and in the square of Saint Anthony of Ispica, the small square of Marzamemi and other typical farms and *trazzere* (paths) of the highlands, the cathedral of Ragusa and the Greek theatre at Siracusa. This last location is the most significant monument of the ancient Greek city and every year between May and June, comes alive with the presentations of classical plays, directed and interpreted by well known international artists.

Also in the archaeological area of Syracuse there are the ruins and the altar of Iero. The most significant remains are held in the Paolo Orsi archaeological museum.

Another thing to see is the historic centre, which occupies the small island of Ortigia, where the Baroque monuments stand together with the remains of the Greek city, elegant locations and a beautiful seaside- where to go down to swim in the clean waters of the sea. Who has seen Syracuse can also undertake pleasant excursions by boat, to admire the coast or to explore along the river Ciane, the only place in Europe where the papyrus plant of Egyptian fame grows.

Chiaramente Gulfi, Cathedral (Santa Maria La Nova)

Aapit Ragusa

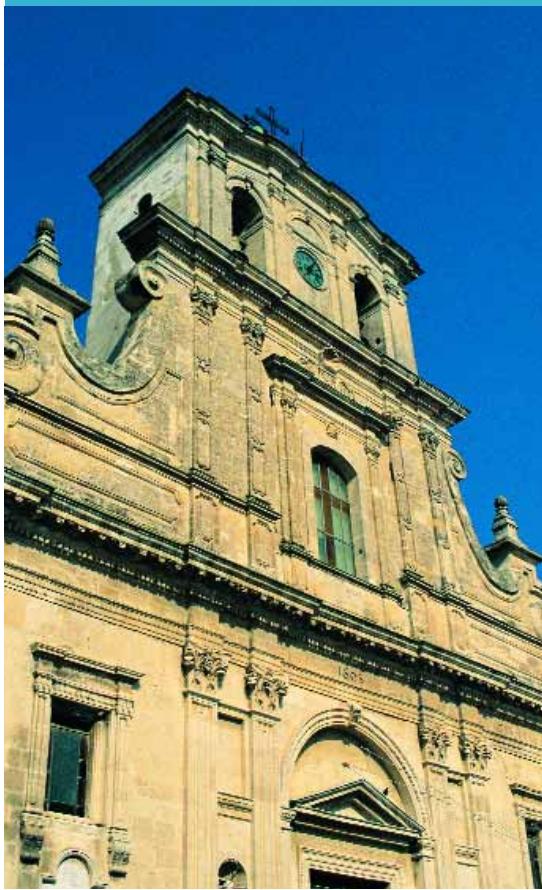
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## Nuovo Cinema Paradiso (1988)

**New Cinema Paradiso** - The story of a town cinema in the 1940's and 50's, which was a meeting point for all of the inhabitants of the town, which was as important as the cafe and the church. The story is recalled from the point of view of the little helper of the projectionist, an enthusiastic lover of cinema from a young age, destined to become an established director.

## Castelbuono, Cefalù, Palazzo Adriano

The imaginary town of Giancaldo, where the film Cinema Paradiso was shot was reconstructed by Tornatore in different locations. One of the most important is Palazzo Adriano (Palermo) whose beautiful Umberto I square, with the grand fountain from the sixteenth century at its centre, has been the subject of many films. The city was founded in the fifteenth century as a colony by Albanian refugees (together with the nearby Piana degli Albanesi, Santa Cristina Gela and Mezzojuso) and has main churches - right on the square the Greek rite titled the Madonna Assunta founded in the fifteenth century and that of the Latin rite of three centuries later dedicated to the Madonna del Lume.

The medieval castle of the Ventimiglia at Castelbuono is also recognisable, and this town is one of the most important centres of the Madonie Park.

Other places to visit in the town is the Matrice Vecchia, a church built between the fourteenth and fifteenth century, which looks out onto the Margherita square, in the heart of the historical centre and the natural history museum Minà Palumbo in the former convent of Santa Venera, in which the collection of minerals, fossils, preserved animals and other elements present the rich natural environment of the park. It is in this last territory that we also find the city of Cefalù: Tornatore chose the little port for the location of the projections of the open air summer cinema.



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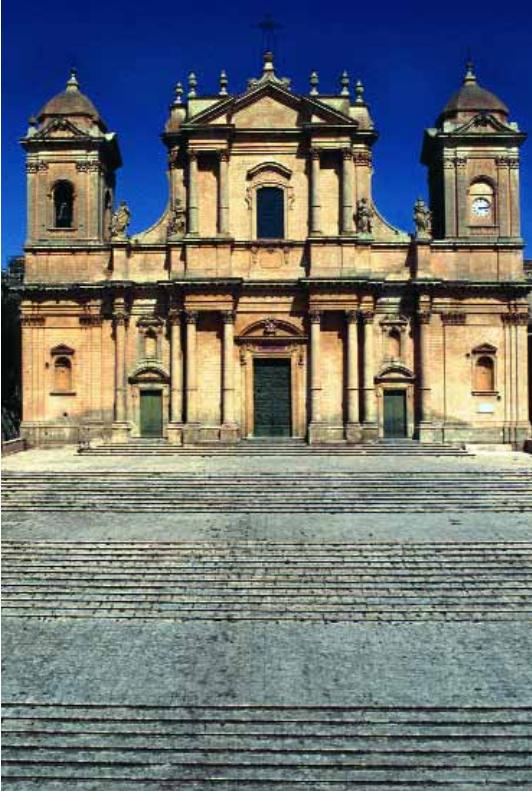
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The straits of Messina  
on the opposite page, Noto, the Cathedral





## Il ladro di bambini (1992)

**The child thief** - After the arrest of the mother, accused of forcing her into prostitution, the little Rosetta and her smaller brother Luciano leave Milan to go to an orphanage at Civitavecchia, accompanied by the young police officer, Salvatore. The orphanage however refuses to take them in, and so the police officer decides to take a journey to find a place for them. The three arrive in Sicily which is where the journey ends: Salvatore returns to the local police station to report a robbery, and ends up under arrest for not obeying the orders received from his Commander.

## From the straits of Messina to Gela

The southern coast and that of the Iblei are the chosen scenes once again: in many shots the force of the sea and the long sandy beaches are depicted to characterise this part of Sicily. The three main characters, for example, stop to eat in a small family run restaurant which looks out onto the beautiful sea off Punta Secca (Ragusa). Besides this there is Noto with its Baroque monuments and also Gela where the final scene is realised on the opened square in front of the school on Venezia street.

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Pachino, Xbini Tower

**Sud (1993)**

**South** - Unemployed and without a house, Ciro, with three friends, occupies a voting station, taking hostage, by chance, the daughter of the political boss of a small town in the south. In the beginning the four wanted only to demonstrate, using fake weapons, but end up doing something serious, the building is raided by Special Forces of the police, with the intervention of the television and together with the local population outside, who are all on their side.

**Marzamemi, Pachino**

The film is set in Marzamemi, a tiny suburb of Pachino who at one time was host to a traditional blue fin tuna hunting industry. Today the "mattanza" (tuna harvest from elaborate nets) no longer occurs making the centre of town has become a place to relax. But the film set is also made up of the exquisite environment of the Mediterranean. The set consists of the oldest antique centre of the hamlet, an open square surrounded at its base by houses which face a little picturesque church. Here for some years there has been cinema festival held (July).

Marzamemi, cherry tomatoes hanging out to dry





## Storia di una capinera (1993)

**Story of a sparrow** - Catania, 1845. The mother superior of a convent decides to send some novices home, to prevent the risk of becoming infected by the cholera epidemic which is tormenting the city. Amongst these is Maria, forced to become a nun by her cruel, selfish mother, indifferent to her real wishes. In fact even though the girl is in love and is loved by Nino, she cannot run away from her destiny to become a nun. From a novel by Giovanni Verga.

## Etna, wonderful scene

Besides Catania, of which we recognise the Biscari palace, the cathedral and other buildings, the story of the unfortunate Maria is also set in and around Mount Etna. The towns of black lava dotted with *ginestre* scrubs, the typical land holdings of the aristocrats, the wealthy working class and land owners, which together constructs the magical scenery.

The highest volcano in Europe is one of the most interesting points for travellers who arrive in Sicily. It's possible to climb with the cable car on the southern side and then with four wheel drive buses arrive up to almost 3,000 meters, a few hundred meters from the central crater. Other interesting excursions are those to the Gurrida Lake on the north western side, along the ski slope high on the mountain, at Monte Nero degli Zappini, at the Nuova Gussonea Botanic Gardens, the chestnut tree of the hundred horses. Besides these there are different grand towns to visit, amongst these Castiglione di Sicilia, Randazzo and Adrano.

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Catania, Etna

Above: Catania, Palazzo Biscari



## Caro Diario (1993)

**Dear Diary** - Three chapters, three episodes: in the second, "Islands", the protagonist decides to visit the Aeolian Islands to find a little peace and quiet. In reality he finds himself travelling from one island to the other, interacting with the often extravagant inhabitants and characters which populate each of the islands.

Lipari, the Castle





## Through the Aeolian Islands

During his odyssey of sixteen days Nanni arrives first of all at Lipari, where he meets his friend Gerardo. The biggest of the Aeolian Islands is also the only one to have a true urban landscape. The houses are gathered at the base of the fortress, a splendid fortress where naturally, from the Neolithic age, the main community of the Aeolian area has settled. On the highest point of the fortress is the Cathedral dedicated to Saint Bartholomew, which show the traces of various refurbishment of the originally Norman church. Visit the sumptuous interior which has many beautiful decorated vaults and frescoes. In the former bishop's palace today you find the first part of the Aeolian Archaeological Museum rich in collections arranged with a modern classification system in different sections.

There is a section dedicated to prehistory, the bronze and the iron ages of Lipari, a section which gathers the remains from the archaeological areas of the smaller islands, a section dedicated to classical archaeology, a section about vulcanology and one dedicated to marine archaeology.

Thanks to the well maintained roads on the island you can comfortably travel by car - the sights not to be missed are those of Forgia vecchia, a collection of oxygenized from an eruption occurred between the eighth and the tenth century and the Rocche Rosse (red rocks). For those who love the sea it is equally important to circumnavigate the island. This final excursion is recommended for all of the islands. The second stage of Moretti is Salina, the only other island apart from Lipari to have its own local government (there are three town halls on the island). There is an interesting museum dedicated to emigration on this Aeolian Island.

The third place is the island of Stromboli and then Panarea, considered the most exclusive. Surrounded by a number of cliffs and tall rock columns that form almost an island by themselves, characterised by an elegant air of frivolity. There are numerous points of extraordinary natural beauty, from Cala Junco to the cliffs of Basiluzzo.

In conclusion Alicudi, the most popular, accessible only by foot, a place of wild solitude, for a vacation of absolute rest.

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## Il postino (1994)

**The postman** - Based on a novel by Antonio Skarmeta titled “The postman of Neruda,” the film tells the story of the friendship between the Chilean poet Pablo Neruda, in exile on an island, and the postman Mario who brings him his correspondence every day. The simplicity of the islander postman and the expressive force of the poet meet with unexpected results.

## Pollara, hamlet of Salina

In the film the island of the exile was recreated on Salina. The film becomes more powerful due to the fact that Massimo Troisi died just after the shooting of the film, so some of the places chosen for various scenes has become objectives of pilgrimage. This is the case with the “red house” which is used to create the scenes of the residence of the poet.

Another place to visit, recognisable in the film, is the beach of Pollara. There is also the small area near Lingua with the beautiful pebble beach, the Monte Fossa delle Felci made up of exuberant Mediterranean vegetation (it is part of the territory of a nature reserve which also protects the nearby Porri mountain). The main town is that of Santa Marina Salina.

Salina, Aeolian sea

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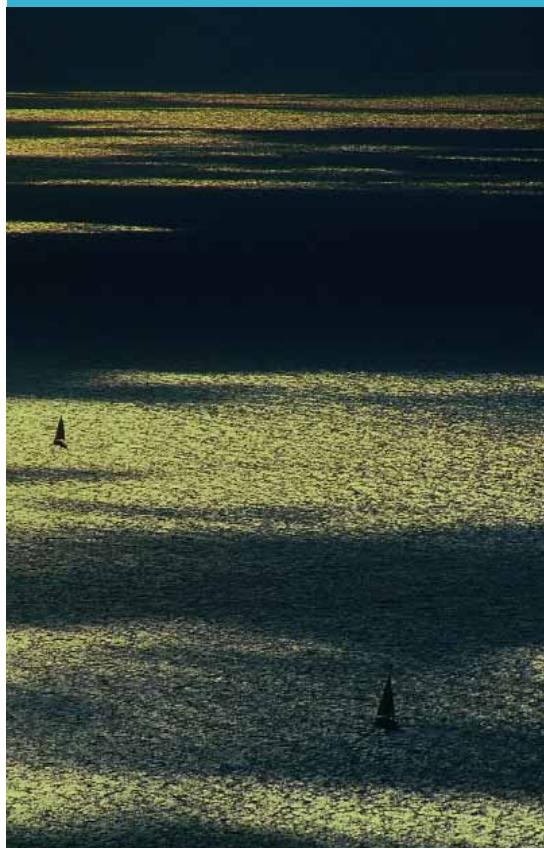
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Aeolian Islands, Salina



## L'uomo delle stelle (1995)

**The star maker** - The post world war two period: Joe Morelli travels Sicily with a ramshackle van, offering fellow Sicilians the possibility to pay for a try out for a fake cinematographic company, of which he is an employee.

Many people run towards his camera in the hope that the opportunity of success could be opened to them. In the course of his travels, Joe meets Diodata, a young orphan, who decides to follow him, even when his deception is discovered.



Poggioreale

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Gangi, Palazzo Bongiorno

## An itinerant troupe

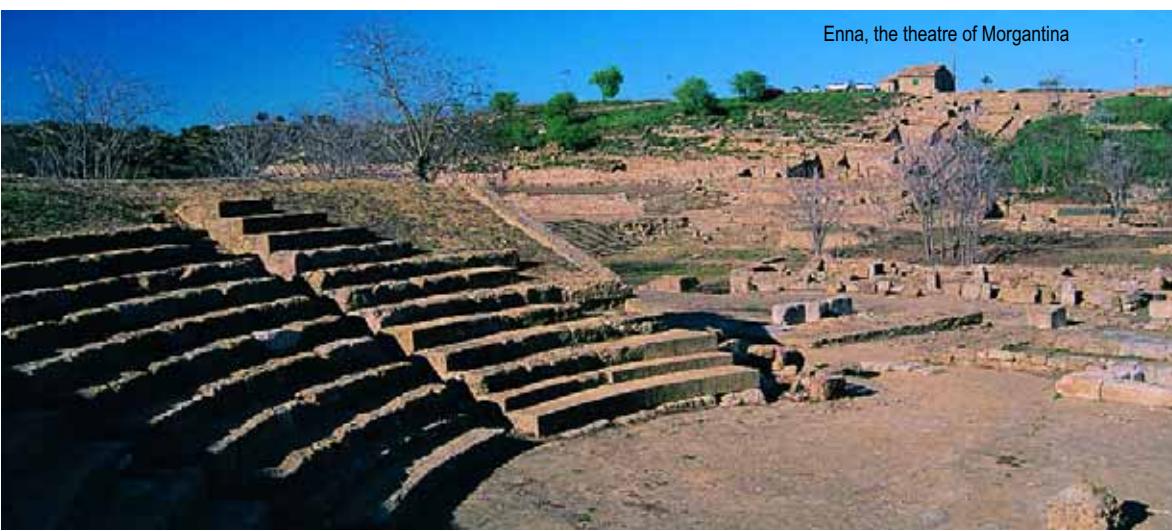
Almost following the exact itinerary as on the screen of the film, the crew moved around a lot in the course of the shooting for the film. From Monterosso Almo, ancient town in the heart of the Iblei mountains - where the set was constructed on the Saint Antonio square - to the Conversation Club at Ragusa Ibla (really one of most popular places and often chosen by directors). You also come to old Gangi, the antique Benedictine convent of the Abbey of Gangi on the Madonie (gracious town of the medieval period, Gangi has beautiful palaces which belonged to the local aristocracy).

The Bongiorno palace, elegantly decorated with frescoes, houses today the local town hall offices. The tour also go to the "balata" of Marzamemi, the small hamlet of fishermen (in the neighbourhood of Pachino, capital of the famous high quality cherrie tomatoes), and also to the Madonie, more specifically the countryside of

Casalgiordano, near to the Petralie. The two towns - Petralia Soprana and Petralia Sottana were originally one town, the Soprana being the fortress of Sottana.

Both are rich in notable testimonies from the past. In particular at Petralia Sottana you can visit, apart from other things, the beautiful main church called the Holy Trinity, at Petralia Soprana the main church is dedicated to Saint Mary of Loreto, beside which a lookout makes it possible to admire the vast panorama of the mountains. For other shots the Grotto of the Gurfa was chosen, in the territory of Alia, a settlement with prehistoric origins, and the archaeological zone of Morgantina (an indigenous centre later becoming Greek, with remains of a market place, a theatre and other public buildings) and in the end the ruins of the city of Poggioreale destroyed by the earthquake of 1968 and today the scenery for numerous cinematographic sets.

Enna, the theatre of Morgantina



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## Marianna Ucria (1997)

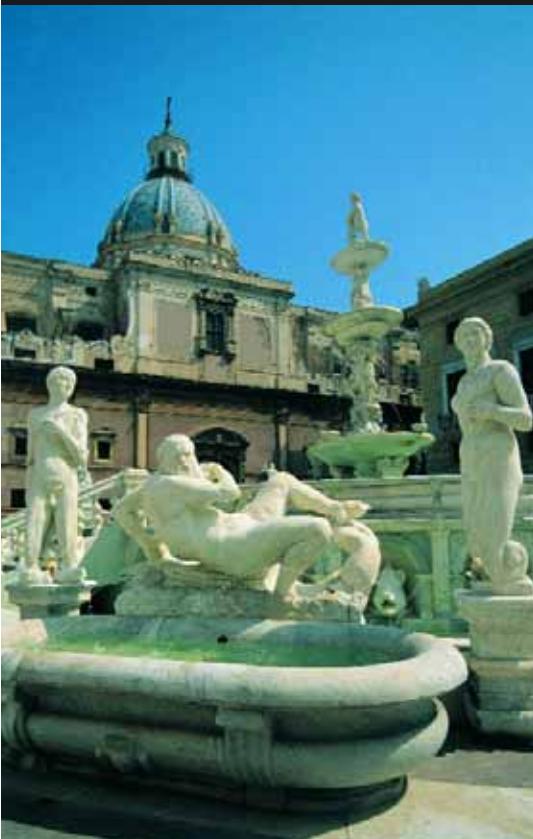
Inspired by the novel by Dacia Maraini called "The long life of Marianna Ucria", the film narrates the tale of the young and noble Marianna, given in matrimony to an old uncle, the same who, when she was about five years old, molested her, traumatizing her to the extent that she lost her voice. Growing up, Marianna becomes aware of what has occurred and is able to overcome the drama.

## A story of Palermo

Like in the book by Maraini, the film is set in Palermo, but in reality many of the images were filmed in other locations. In fact, in the opening scenes you can see the carriage of the Ucria family drive through the Porta Nuova, the monumental gate to the Vittorio Emanuele Avenue of Palermo, right after there is the recognisable splendid Cathedral square of Siracusa.

The main set is in the Fegotto Villa, a characteristic farm in the countryside of the Iblei, not far from Chiaramonte Gulfi. In this small town there are eight museums to visit: from the ones dedicated to olive oil, ornithology, musical instruments, the house museum and the De Vita art gallery all in the Montesano palace. Besides these there is the museum of the parade in San Giovanni Street, of historic treasures and sacred art, both in the cathedral square.

Some scenes were shot inside the nature reserve of Vendicari an ample protected costal area in the Noto territory, a wellknown resting place for migratory birds.



Palermo, Piazza Pretoria or "delle Vergogne"

## Tano da morire (1997)

**To die for Tano** - To present the Mafia through a grotesque musical: a bet which seems lost from the beginning and yet it was a perfect success for Torre, the Milanese born director with a particular love for Palermo. The tale takes up the story from the death (a real event) of Tano Guarrasi, killed by a hired killer in a butcher shop. His death was planned, but not efficiently enough, so it gives the family and those who where threatened into submission, the chance to be finally liberated by the threatening presence. But the future is not all roses.

## Noisy Vucciria

The main character of the film is the noisy and colourful popular Palermo market of the Vucciria, one of the most picturesque and authentic locations of the town. The city administration is trying to restore as much as possible this place in recent times, to give Palermo a piece of its original identity back.

Palermo, the Vucciria



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## Malèna (2000)

During the years of fascism and of the Second World War, the film's protagonist is Malèna, the town beauty, an attractive woman whom we follow during the film through the eyes of a boy, Renato, in love with her - like many others. Remaining alone after her husband's departure for the war, with the news of his death the woman is pushed into prostitution.

## A travel to Siracusa

The beautiful Malena takes her walks in the very elegant Cathedral Square in the historic centre of Siracusa, on the small island of Ortigia. This ancient area of the capital - where Baroque monuments are united with the ruins of the Greek city, with elegant locations and a pleasant seaside (and where it is possible to descend to bathe in the clean waters of the sea) - was used in many other parts of the film. Thanks also to the recovery of public and private buildings, the area is slowly but surely recuperating its original look and it's a perfect place to go for a pleasurable walk.

Who has been to Siracusa can also be interested in nice excursions by boat to admire both the coast and also follow the Ciane River the only location in Europe, where the papyrus of ancient Egyptian fame can grow.

For other scenes Noto was chosen, in particular the beautiful Nicolaci street, which in May becomes the theatre of the spectacular *Infiorata*, with the creation of large floral decorations. For other scenes the town chosen is Scicli (Ragusa), one of the most interesting centres for all those who know Sicilian Baroque - and which is in fact inserted, particularly for the buildings realised in this architectural style, part of the World Heritage list of UNESCO.

There are also some locations around Catania and the cliffs are in the end those of the Scala dei Turchi, a few kilometres to the west of Agrigento, a particular steep cliff of light chalk which heads down towards the sea with large steps.

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Siracusa, Piazza Duomo



Realmonte, Scala dei Turchi



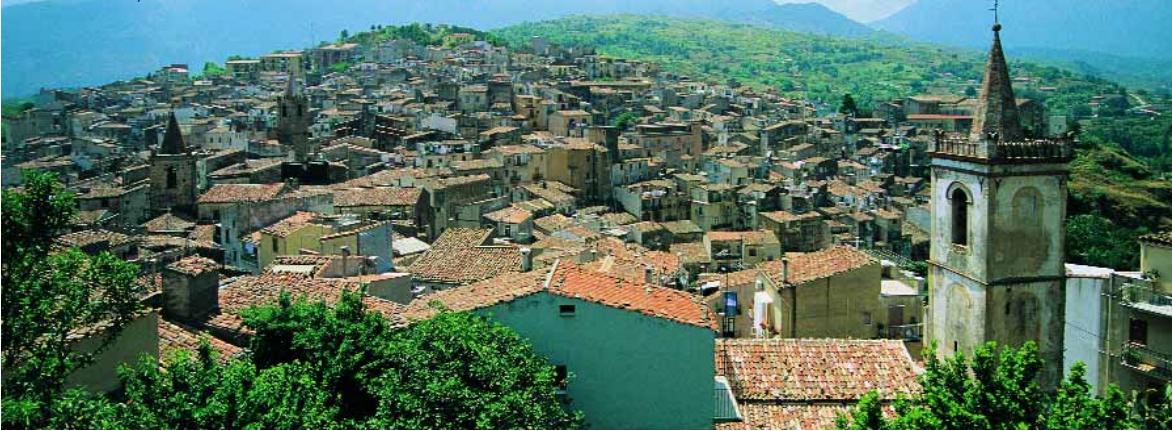
## Placido Rizzotto (2000)

The young Placido returns to Sicily after the Second World War, but he is unable to be of any help against the tyranny and violence which the landowners and the Mafia have towards peasants, labourers and other unfortunate workers. Because of this he becomes the head of the union for the farm workers, but when he organises the occupation of the landowners disused land, the aspiring mafia boss Luciano Liggio puts a contract out for his murder. Rizzotto was killed in 1948, his body was never found.

## Madonie, the Isnello village

The historical event which inspired the director happened in the small town of Corleone. Nevertheless, to create the setting of his film, Scimeca preferred the small town of Isnello on the Madonie mountains with less than two thousand inhabitants. The centre is the Mazzini square on which the main church is a feature, founded in the fourteenth century but notably transformed, and also the main street of Vittorio Emanuele. There is also the Terravecchia quarter of the town, the oldest area, and the small medieval church of Saint Michael. Other religious buildings include the church of the Rosary, that of Santa Maria Maggiore decorated by Baroque stucco works and the church of the Annunciation.

Isnello, view on the town



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Isnello, the Mother Church



## I cento passi (2000)

**The hundred steps** - The film reconstructs the story of Peppino Impastato, born at Cinisi one hundred steps from the house of Tano Badalamenti, a powerful head of the Mafia who is a relative of Peppino's father. The young Peppino, deaf to the warnings and rebukes, rebels against the repressive powers of Badalamenti and because of this he was murdered in 1978. The investigations were immediately suspended: for years after it was believed that Impastato himself was preparing a bomb for an attack and probably was killed by the accidental explosion of the device. Only after twenty years Badalamenti was recognised as the one who ordered the homicide.

## In the centre of Cinisi

The set of the film was reconstructed in the locations where the events really took place in Cinisi. Recognisable is the Umberto street, the Vittorio Emanuele square and the Station square. Radio Out was recreated in the nearby Terrasini, while the farm in the countryside, where the family eats lunch, is in the Balestrate territory.

Cinisi, the ancient *Tonnara*, the tuna fishing station



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Cinisi, the Pozzallo Tower



## Iris (2001)

The story of little Maria who for her mother's birthday decides to go and gather a bunch of beautiful Iris flowers.

# The Sea Reserve of Ustica (PA)

The story is set on the island of Ustica, the first marine reserve set up in our country. To get to the island you take a ferry or hydrofoil from Palermo, berthing in the small port of Ustica, where people gather for an evening aperitif or an ice cream.

The daytime is dedicated to the beach: diving for those who are able, but also for those who wish to learn, thanks to many courses which are organised by the specialist school on the island. You can also do snorkelling, exploring the see under the surface of the water or go for excursions by glass bottom boats organised by the nature reserve (the visitors centre is the place where to start. Here there is material which informs visitors of the various activities). You can also just go swimming in the transparent water which surrounds the island. The most noteworthy locations are Cala Sidoti, Punta Spalmatore, the natural pools. Not to be missed is the circumnavigation of the island, with the various grottos which open up along the coast line: Grotta Azzurra, Grotta Verde, Grotta delle Barche and others.



Ustica



Ustica, the port

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Lampedusa, Isola dei Conigli



## Respiro (2002)

**I breathe** - The story takes place on the island of Lampedusa and has as protagonist Grazia, the wife of a fisherman who cannot get used to life on the island and because of this is thought to be abnormal.

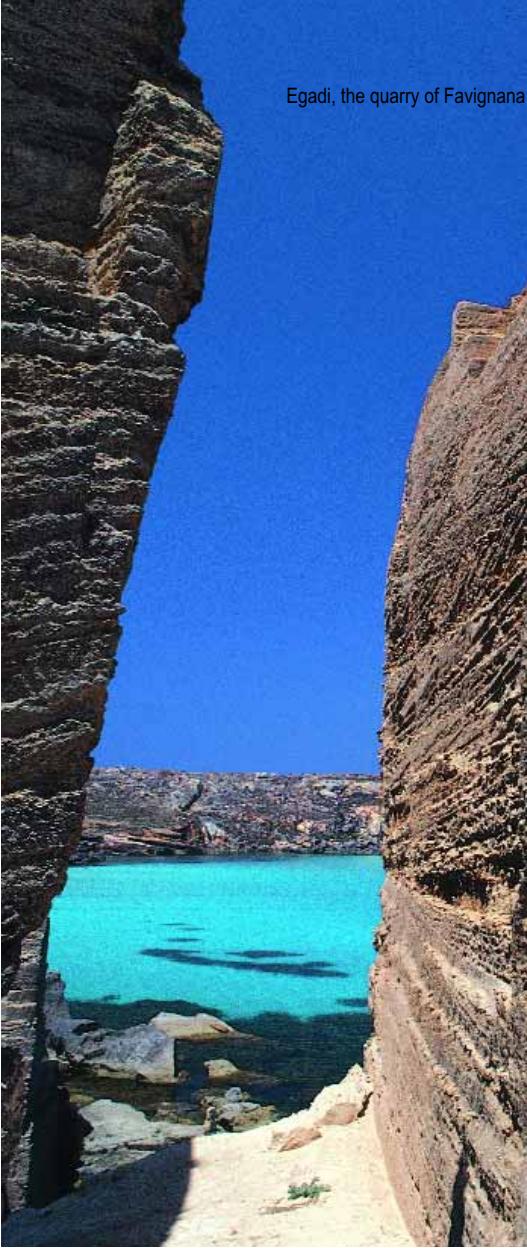
## White falaises and turtles, Lampedusa

Lampedusa is essentially a summertime island for lovers of the sea, surrounded by a splendid and transparent sea. Closer to Africa than to Italy, it once belonged to the family of Giuseppe Tomasi di Lampedusa, author of the Leopard, but was later bought by the Bourbon king Ferdinand who built a jail on it.

The most stunning point is probably the bay of the Isola dei Conigli (Island of the Rabbits) surrounded by white sands where every year the Caretta caretta turtles come to lay their eggs (the nests are marked and protected by volunteers from the environmental associations). Besides the trip around the island by boat, another interesting excursion goes to the island of Linosa which, although it is a part of the same archipelago, is completely different from the point of view of the geomorphology.

Lampedusa





Egadi, the quarry of Favignana

## L'isola (2003)

**The Island** - Two brothers, Turi and Teresa, children of a fisherman from Favignana, live a simple and quiet life. To destroy the peace of their daily lives is Turi's decision to participate in the fishing expeditions with his father, a fact which changes for always the relationship between Turi and Teresa.

## The Favignana Island

The first film of the thirty year old Palermitano director after a career as a documentary maker has chosen to depict this story on the island of Favignana, the largest of the Egadi islands, archipelago in the extreme west of Sicily. The island's name connects it to the memory of the 'mattanza', the ritual fishing of tuna which the Sicilians inherited from the Arabs during the middle ages and is still practiced today, continuing with great difficulty.

On the island there are no large monuments to see, apart from the small eighteenth century palace of the Florio family, long time owners of the tuna production industry. The beauties are those of the sea, the most beautiful being the areas of Cala Rossa, the Bue Marino, Cala Rotonda and Lido Burrone.

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## Fiction in Sicily

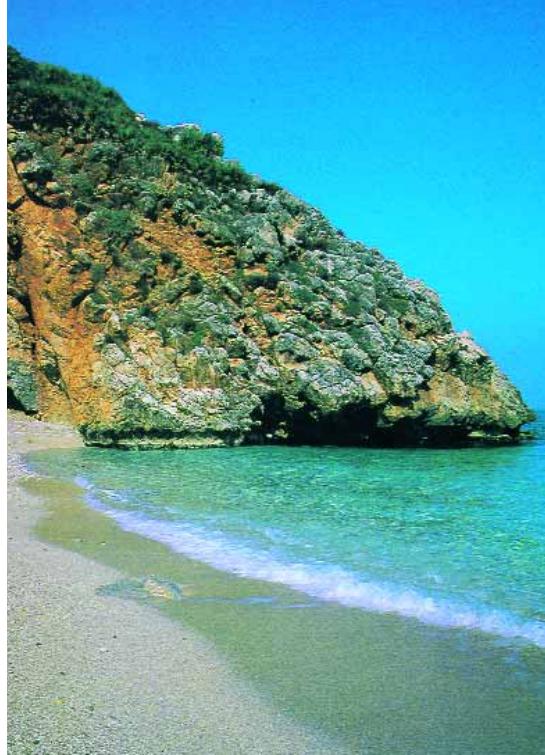


Scopello, *la Tonnara*,  
the tuna fishing station



## Cefalonia (2004)

One of the latest television series of recent days, which has been shot in Sicily is Cefalonia, the story of the Acqui regiment. Near the end of the war it finds itself isolated on a Greek island together with the Germans and from one day to the next they become enemies. The alternative drama is whether to surrender or fight and the soldiers - for the first time in history - decide through a kind of referendum to fight and nearly all end up killed.



## The Zingaro Reserve

Instead of going to Greece, the director found in Sicily the locations for the set of the sad yet heroic story of the soldiers. Above all in the coastal areas, like the nature reserve of Zingaro with its antique refuges of peasants and shepherds, the old tuna fishing station of San Vito Lo Capo, the salt mines of Trapani and also the ruins of Poggioreale - destroyed in the 1968 earthquake which makes it the ideal location to set this particular kind of story. Besides the walk along the sea of the gulf of Castellammare, the town which has been used as the set for many films in the last few years, including *Avenging Angelo* (2001, with Sylvester Stallone), *My name is Tanino* (2001), *Ocean's Twelve*, big Hollywood production of 2004 (the following of *Ocean's eleven*) with Brad Pitt, George Clooney and Catherine Zeta-Jones. Besides Castellammare some scenes of the film were shot in the picturesque tuna fishing station of Scopello.

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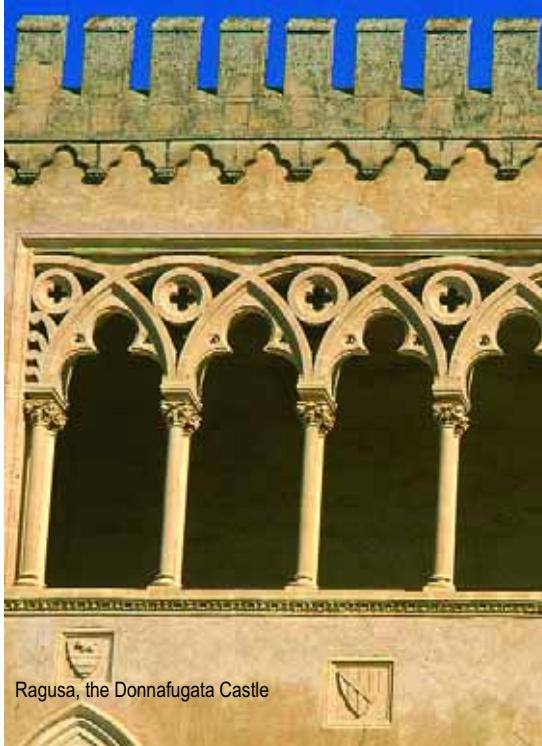
On these pages:  
two images of the Zingaro Nature Reserve

# Inspector Montalbano

Locations of pure fantasy, yet firmly linked to Sicilian reality, those suggested in the stories and novels of Andrea Camilleri whose main protagonist is Inspector Montalbano. A real Sicilian will easily recognise the places, in spite of the author's changing sometimes only a consonant in the names of Licata, Gela, Lampedusa (Vigata, Fela, Sampedusa) and thus be able to make a mental and virtual itinerary connecting one place with the other.

But if our hypothetical reader was to see the telefilm (the successful series still have to reach the number of ten episodes, four are still being worked on) he will find it hard to recognise the places appearing on the television, because they are elsewhere: in fact for his locations, the director Alberto Sironi did not choose the province of Agrigento but that of Ragusa, setting the story between the Baroque vaults of the monuments at Ibla, at Scicli and Modica.

This is one of the most interesting areas of Sicily from the point of view of landscape, monuments, anthropology, and after recognizing the sceneries in which the most beloved inspector of Italy moves, you can see monuments of a breathtaking beauty, bath in the clear waters that lap the shores of long beaches and recognize the signs of a picturesque rural Sicilian civilization.



Ragusa, the Donnafugata Castle

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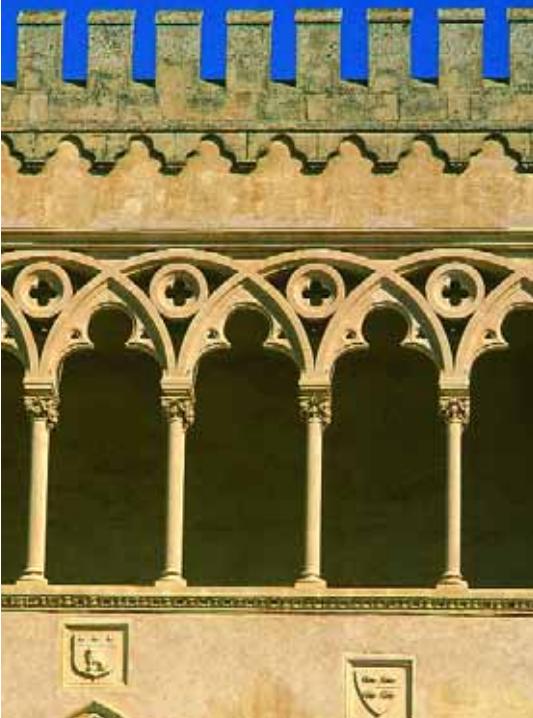
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Messina, Tindari and the sea-pools of Marinello



Lets start in the very capital, to be more precise from Ibla, with its most ancient suburbs which in the telecast is Vigata: its main square, an elongated rectangle which ends with the scenographic stairway which takes us to the cathedral of Saint George and which appears in a number of the scenes, like that of the other stairway, the very long Santa Maria delle Scale which joins the two halves of the city. From its peak there is an amazing panorama over Ibla, with its numerous houses one on top of the other in a medieval structure. In the eighteenth century the local nobility reconstructed in the Baroque style and a suggestive combination of styles which at Ibla is perhaps the most fascinating part. Leaving Ragusa behind after a few kilometres there is Donnafugata, the nineteenth century castle which the Baron of Arezzo constructed on an original perhaps Saracen site. It was the richest mansion in the entire province and the Baron even built himself a small train station there. More than a hundred rooms, an eight hectare park with artificial caves, a coffee house, a labyrinth and many other suggestive elements of the popular taste of the period. Even though it is only partially restored, the castle has been

recently reopened for the public. Here you can recognize the house of an elderly mafia boss, Balduccio Sinagra, who in *A trip to Tindari* received the inspector as a guest. A short distance from here, the more energetic persons can visit the Grotto of the Trabacce, a catacomb from the Byzantine period with unique tombs, the only of this kind in the region: it is here that the inspector in *The Terracotta dog* finds the mummified bodies of the two lovers. At the entrance to Ragusa there is the Villa Criscione, a stupendous fortified farm which has been elegantly restored, whose interior is used for performances of concerts and summer events: in the television series it is the house of engineer Luparello, one of the characters in *The form of water*. Another splendid residence hosts Alessia Merz, the unfortunate victim, which the inspector finds at the beginning of the episode titled *The voice of the violin*: the Hermitage of the Giubiliana, a convent - fortress from the sixteenth century, today a refined hotel. If one returns to Ragusa in time for lunch it's possible to drop in at the Rusticana, the favourite restaurant of the inspector. But not only Ragusa and its immediate surroundings are a part of the set in the story of

# Through the Baroque spirals of Ragusa

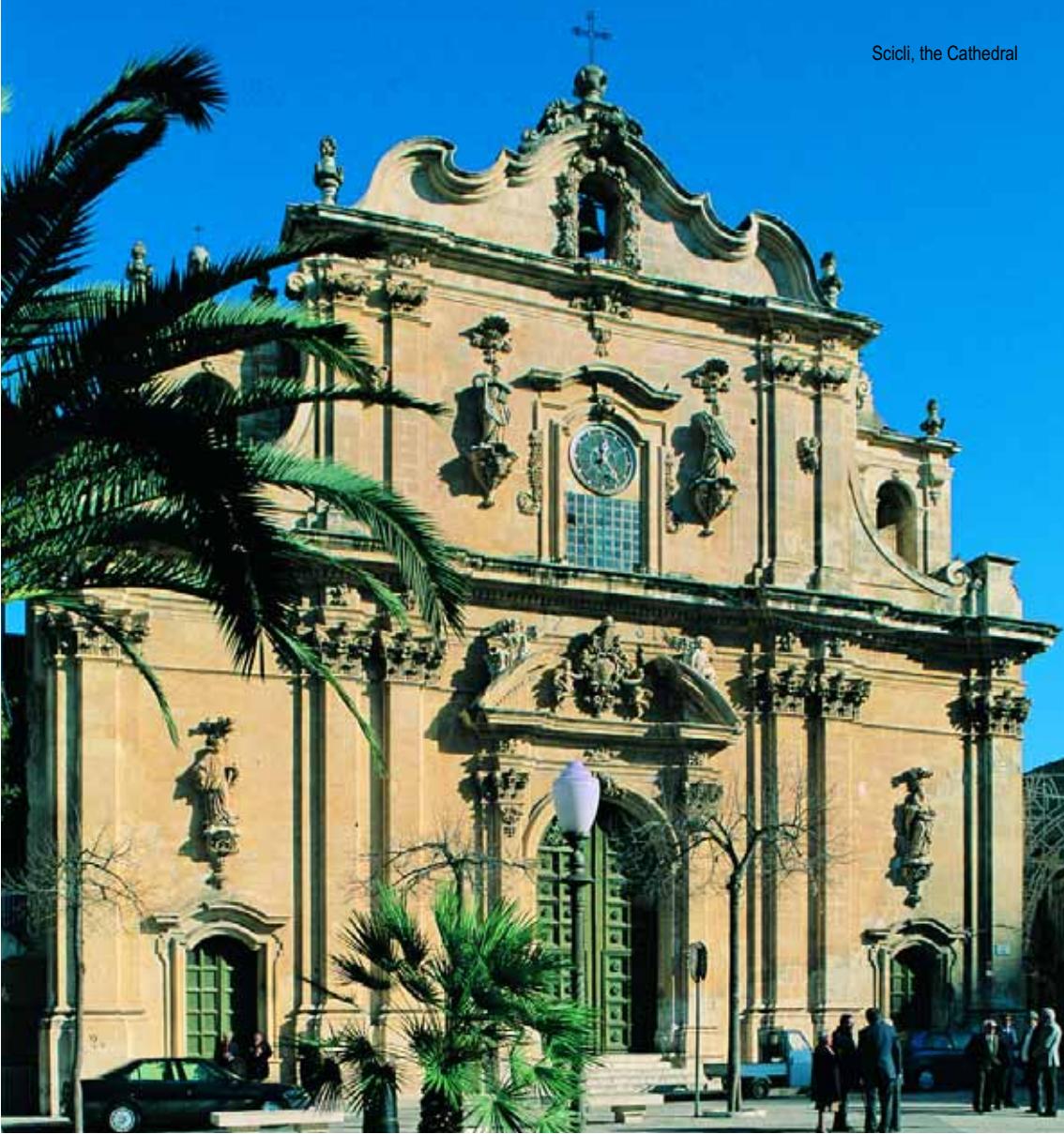
Montalbano, there is also the port of Pozzallo which was chosen, Donnalucata - which has become the sea promenade of Vigàta - just like the splendid Mormino Penna street at Scicli, one of the most beautiful streets in Sicily with its uninterrupted succession of noble palaces and churches. Here you find the Iacono palace, alias the police station of Montelusa. To see the *Mannara*, the brothel where the body of engineer Luparello is found (in *The form of water*), you need to go instead to the hamlet of Sampieri, a village opposite of Scicli, where the suggestive ruins of the brick factory of Pisciotto

are found. Montalbano's house is a few kilometres from here: the mythical house on the beach with its L-shaped balcony and the sandy beach rises up in the outskirts of the inhabited area of Punta Secca. To be honest, don't miss the episodes even in other Sicilian locations: the tuna fishing station of Scopello, for example, the antique village in the grotto of Mangiapane di Scurati, the sanctuary of Tindari, where the episode *A trip to Tindari* ends. And furthermore Noto, the nature reserve of Vendicari, Favignana and Levanzo, filmed for *A sense of tact*.

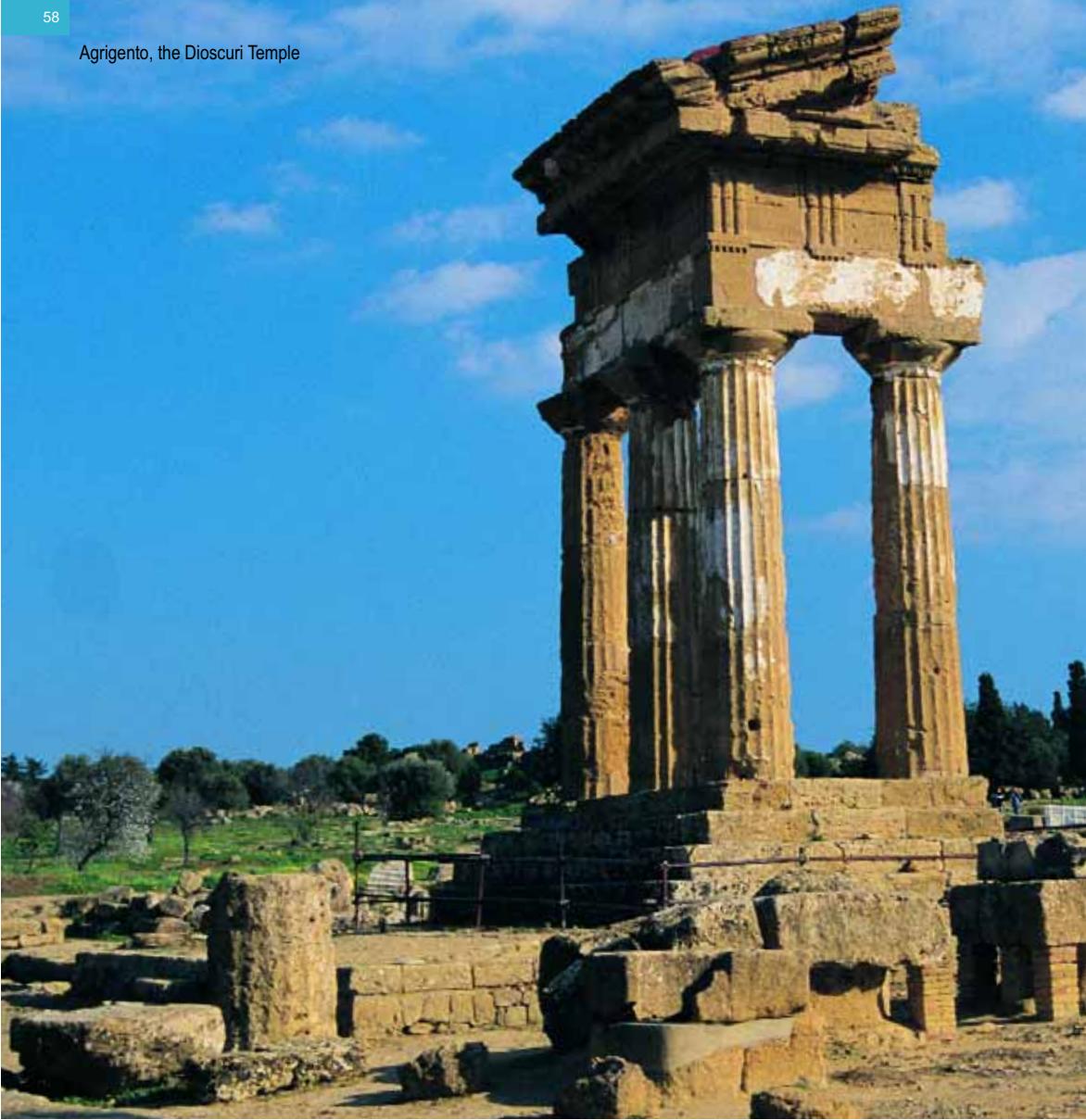
Scicli, Palazzo Beneventano



Scicli, the Cathedral



Agrigento, the Dioscuri Temple



The sites below, which have been mentioned in this pamphlet, have been recovered, restorated and requalificated thanks to the measure 2.01 of the Sicilian POR for the years 2000-2006 "Recovery and utilization of the cultural and natural heritage" by the **Regional Ministry for Culture and Public Instruction - The Culture and Nature Department**.

1. Catania - Roman Theatre and Odeon
2. Santa Margherita di Belice (AG) - The Filangeri Cutò Mansion, The Gattopardo Wax Museum
3. Aidone (EN) - The archaeological area of Morgantina
4. Ragusa - The Donnafugata Castle
5. Noto (SR) - The Nicolaci Mansion
6. Forza D'Agrò (ME) - View of the castle
7. Gangi (PA) - The Bongiorno Mansion

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Every trip we take also marks the beginning of a story. People in search of art, adventure, scenery and roots chose our land in the past and continue to choose it today. For this reason, Sicily in 2005 will welcome not only tourists but also *Travellers*, attracted by events, music, theatre, literature or, simply, beautiful surroundings, quality and a pleasant way of life. It will open the doors of its castles, theaters and museums. Of its cities.

Of its archeological and natural parks. Of its sea and mountains. And it will speak through flavours, colors and fragrances. Sicily of 2005 will take you to the places that inspired the *Great Travellers*. It will be the year of the Grand Tour. Here each person will find his story.

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